



**BEST BEST & KRIEGER**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Indian Wells  
(760) 568-2811  
Los Angeles  
(213) 617-8100  
Manhattan Beach  
(310) 643-8448  
Ontario  
(909) 989-8584

18101 Von Karman Avenue, Suite 1000, Irvine, CA 92612  
Phone: (949) 263-2600 | Fax: (949) 260-0972 | www.bbklaw.com

Riverside  
(951) 686-1450  
Sacramento  
(916) 325-4000  
San Diego  
(619) 525-1300  
Walnut Creek  
(925) 977-3300  
Washington, DC  
(202) 785-0600

Ryan M. F. Baron  
(949) 263-6568  
Ryan.Baron@bbklaw.com  
File No. 61147.00150

November 30, 2018

**VIA E-MAIL**

Phil Wyels  
Office of Chief Counsel  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street, 22nd Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95812

Re: **SWRCB/OCC File A-2456 (a) through (l) – Request to Hold in  
Abeyance Petitions for Review A-2456(k) (City of San Juan  
Capistrano)**

Dear Mr. Wyels:

Best Best & Krieger represents the City of San Juan Capistrano (“Petitioner”) in the above-referenced proceeding. On December 18, 2015, Petitioner filed Petition for Review A-2456(k) requesting review of San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board Order No. R9-2015-0100, and order amending Order No. R9-2013-0001, as amended by Order No. R9-2015-0001, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) Draining the Watersheds within the San Diego Region (“Petition”). On December 5, 2016, Petitioner asked that its Petition be put into abeyance. The abeyance period is for two years and is due to expire on or around December 17, 2018. Petitioner is requesting that the State Board continue to hold these petitions in abeyance for an additional two years, *i.e.*, December 16, 2020, or until such time as the State Board acts on the petitions in this proceeding. Petition further requests that the Chief Counsel’s Office send Petitioner written notice that it has accepted the abeyance request and the date when the abeyance period expires.

On March 15, 2016, the State Water Resources Control Board deemed the Petition complete and consolidated it with certain other petitions that were factually and legally related. On November 4, 2016, the State Board issued notice of its proposed own motion to review Order No. R9-2015-0100 because the State Board could not complete review of the petitions within the 270 day time period prescribed by 23 C.C.R. § 2050.5(a). The notice indicated that the State Board was reviewing the petitions filed on the watershed management plans required under the MS4 permit issued by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. Upon the adoption of an order on the issues raised in the Los Angeles petitions, the State Board would determine whether to adopt an order addressing the issues raised by the petitioners on the San

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Phil Wyels  
November 30, 2018  
Page 2

Diego MS4 permit. On December 6, 2016, the State Board took up review of the Petition. At that time, the Office of Chief Counsel noted that there was a backlog of petitions and it did not have sufficient time to review the San Diego MS4 permit petitions within the 270 day period.

It has been almost two years since the State Board took up review of the petitions in this proceeding. In lieu of seeking a court's review of the Petition, Petitioner has patiently waited for the State Board to review and address the issues that have been raised on the San Diego MS4 permit. In addition to this abeyance request, I respectfully ask that the Office of Chief Counsel provide a status and timeline for when the Petition might be reviewed and heard by the State Board.

Lastly, I request that the following changes to the Name and Address (Notice) sections of the Petition be changed to the following:

Petition for Review A-2546(k) - City of San Juan Capistrano

Benjamin Siegel  
City Manager  
City of San Juan Capistrano  
32400 Paseo Adelanto  
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675  
Telephone: 949-443-6315

Joe Parco  
City Engineer  
City of San Juan Capistrano  
32400 Paseo Adelanto  
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675  
Telephone: 949-443-6353

Ryan M. F. Baron  
Rebecca Andrews  
Best Best & Krieger LLP  
18101 Von Karman Ave, Ste. 1000  
Irvine CA 92612  
(949) 263-6568  
[ryan.baron@bbklaw.com](mailto:ryan.baron@bbklaw.com)  
[rebecca.andrews@bbklaw.com](mailto:rebecca.andrews@bbklaw.com)



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Phil Wyels  
November 30, 2018  
Page 3

Please do not hesitate to contact me with information related to this Petition. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ryan M. F. Baron', written over the typed name.

Ryan M. F. Baron  
for BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP